

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given by David Klein on 10/25/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

- Claims 1 and 5:
line 5: change "movably" to --pivotally--
- Claims 2 and 6:
line 5: insert --having resilient arms-- after "key combination element"
line 7: delete “wherein”
line 8: after "combination element" , delete "has" and insert -- capable of resiliently protruding outwards beyond both of said first and second side surfaces before entering the cylinder lock plug, and having--
- Cancel claim 9.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicant's concept of a key combination element having pivotable resilient arms which protrude beyond the surface of the key before entering the key cylinder is novel in the art. The

examiner can find no reason to combine or modify the references of record to create applicant's device without the use of hindsight.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KRISTINA R. FULTON whose telephone number is (571)272-7376. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH 7-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Cuomo can be reached on 571-272-6856. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Peter M. Cuomo/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3673

/K. R. F./
Examiner, Art Unit 3673
10/26/09